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60/373,335 **17 April 2002 (17.04.2002)** **US**
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(54) Title: METHOD FOR OPTIMIZING THE POSITIONS OF STANDARDS ON MALDI TARGETS FOR MASS SPECTROMETRY

(57) **Abstract:** The invention relates to the field of molecular mass measurement by time-of-flight mass spectrometers where the ionization of analyte substances is produced by matrix-assisted laser absorption (MALDI). Methods for the correction of flight time values based on the use of external standards are provided, and in particular methods for determining, given a MALDI target, the optimal positions of mass calibration standards are described.